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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 09947 171726Z

46
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
---------- 046262
P 171710Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2527

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 9947

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, BR
SUBJECT: SILVEIRA NEED FOR ACTION ON BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM

1. DURING MY NOVEMBER 12 CONVERSATION WITH SILVEIRA, I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD CAUGHT UP IN WASHINGTON ON HIS OCTOBER 16 LETTER TO THE SECRETARY ON THE PROPOSED BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION. I TOLD HIM THAT I THOUGHT THE LETTER HAD BEEN A GOOD ONE AND THAT I PARTICULARLY WELCOMED HIS CANDID AND FORTHRIGHT STATEMENT OF WHAT BRAZIL WANTED AND EXPECTED FROM THE MECHANISM AND IN FACT FROM THE "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" IT SOUGHT. I ADDED THAT THE FRANK EXPOSITION IN HIS LETTER OF BRAZILIAN EXPECTATIONS COINCIDED ALMOST PRECISELY WITH MY OWN ASSESSMENT OF THE BRAZILIAN POSITION THAT I HAD TRANSMITTED TO WASHINGTON.

2. WHEN I WENT ON TO SAY THAT I KNEW A REPLY TO HIS LETTER WAS IN PROCESS, SILVEIRA COMMENTED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MECHANISM WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO HIM. HE SAID: "IT CAN HELP ME A LOT."

3. COMMENT: SILVEIRA'S REFERENCE TO HELP SHOULD BE VIEWED NOT ONLY OR EVEN PRINCIPALLY AS A REPETITION OF HIS LONG-STANDING DESIRE TO USE THE HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS AS A MEANS OF GETTING CONTROL OVER THE ELEMENTS OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMUNITY IN THE GOB. COMING AS IT DID IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS EVIDENT UNEASY DEFENSIVENESS ABOUT THE

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DOMESTIC REACTIONS TO THE VOTE ON ZIONISM AND THE ACTION

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ON ANGOLA, IT SHOULD PROBABLY BE INTERPRETED AS AN
EXPRESSION OF HIS CURRENT NEED FOR SOMETHING THAT WOULD HELP
RECOUP HIS STANDING.
CRIMMINS

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